Template for Vendors Recycled Product Specifications

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Because of the U.S. Department's commitment to the environment, safety, and health, we purchase environmentally preferable products with special emphasis on the preferred products acts of Congress direct us to purchase: those with biobased and recycled content, energy and water efficient, alternative fuel and vehicles. We are required to report our purchases of all products designated for purchase with recycled content.

Suppliers of products need to be aware of the requirement for U.S. Department of Energy staff and their contractors to purchase the recycled products that are listed in the "Recovered Materials Advisory Notices." "Once EPA designates an item, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Section 6002 requires that any procuring agency, when using appropriated federal funds to procure that item, shall purchase it with the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable" (40 CFR 247). The requirement is that 100 percent of the purchases of the designated products shall meet or exceed the EPA guideline standards unless written justification is provided that a product is 1) not available competitively within a reasonable time frame, 2) does not meet appropriate performance standards, or 3) is only available at an unreasonable price. No exceptions are allowed for book paper, carbonless paper, computer printout paper, copy paper, cotton fiber paper, cover stock, file folders, forms bond, office paper (such as notepads), and white woven envelopes. For details on the specifications for recycled products, see the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's website at http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products.htm.

The products presently requiring recycled content are:

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Office Products		
Awards/Plaques - Free-Standing Statues/Wall Hangings (not frames)	75% post-consumer glass or 40% post-consumer paper or 50% post-consumer plastic or plastic/wood composite or 100% recycled wood	
Binders – 3-ring Paperboard	80% post-consumer paper	
Binders – 3-ring Plastic Covered	25% recycled plastic	
Binders – Solid Plastic	90% post-consumer HDPE 30% post consumer PE 100% post-consumer PET 80% post-consumer miscellaneous plastics	
Boxes – Storage/Magazine	40% post-consumer fiber	

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Cards - Index	30% post-consumer fiber	
Clipboards – Solid Plastic	90% post-consumer HDPE 50% post-consumer PS 15% post-consumer miscellaneous plastics	
Covers – Coverstock/Report (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Desktop Accessories - Plastic	25% post-consumer polystyrene	
Diskettes - Computer	electronically cleaned diskettes – no requirement but available	
Dividers - Cardstock	30% post-consumer fiber	
Envelopes – Kraft	10% post-consumer fiber	
Envelopes - Tyvek®	25% post-consumer with total of 35% recycled plastic	
Envelopes – White Woven (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Folders – Manila/Hanging (no exception allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Folders – Solid Plastic File	90% post-consumer HDPE	
Folders – Solid Plastic Presentation	90% post-consumer HDPE	
Forms – Bond (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Furniture - Office	100% recycled agriculture fiber or 75% recycled aluminum or 70% post-consumer HDPE with total of 95% recycled HDPE or 100% post-consumer PET or 25% post-consumer remanufactured/refurbished components or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel or 1% post-consumer wood composite with total of 80% recycled wood composite	
Ink Jet Cartridges	remanufactured - no requirement but available	
Mailers – Diskette/CD, Tubes	75% post-consumer fiber	
Mouse Pad	recycled - no requirement but available	
Paper – Bond/ Computer/ Copy/ Fax/Printer/ Xerox (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – Book (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Paper – Calendars Desk/Wall	30% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – Carbonless (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – Certificate (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – Daytimer/Planner/Organizer (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – Glossy Calendar/Magazine/Poster	10% post-consumer fiber	
Paper - Newsprint	10% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – Pads Desk/ Engineering/ Legal/Lined/Note/Steno/ Sticky (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – Stationery (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Paper – 3-Hole (no exceptions allowed)	30% post-consumer fiber	
Pencils	recycled - no requirement but available	
Portfolios – Solid Plastic Clip	90% post-consumer HDPE	
Protectors – Plastic Document	recycled - no requirement but available	
Printer Ribbons	Reinked/reloadable printer ribbons	
Tags and Tickets	20% post-consumer fiber	
Toner Cartridges	Remanufactured	
Janitorial Products		
Boxes – Corrugated Moving	25% post-consumer fiber	
Napkins - Paper	30% post-consumer fiber	
Recycling Containers - Office	20% post-consumer plastic 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Tissue - Facial	10% post-consumer fiber	
Tissue - Toilet	20% post-consumer fiber	
Towels - Paper	40% post-consumer fiber	
Trash Bags - Plastic	10% post-consumer	
Trash Receptacles - Office	20% post-consumer plastic or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Wipers – General Purpose Industrial	40% post-consumer fiber	
Building Insulation		
Cellulose Loose Fill and Spray	75% post-consumer paper	
Fiberglass	20% glass cullet	
Perlite Composite Board	23% post-consumer fiber	
Phenolic Rigid Foam	5% recycled plastic	
Plastic, Non-Woven Batt	100% recycled plastic	
Plastic Rigid Foam, Polyisocyanurate/Polyurethane: Foam-in-Place	5% recycled	
Plastic Rigid Foam, Polyisocyanurate/Polyurethane: Glass Fiber Reinforced	6% recycled	
Plastic Rigid Foam, Polyisocyanurate/Polyurethane: Rigid Foam	9% recycled plastic	
Rock Wool	75% slag	
Construction Products		
Carpet - Polyester	25% PET	
Carpet Cushion - Bonded Polyurethane - Jute - Rubber	15% post-consumer old carpet cushion 40% post-consumer burlap 60% post-consumer tire rubber	
- Synthetic fibers	100% recycled carpet fabrication scrap	
Cement and Concrete with Fly Ash	possible 0-40% coal fly ash; for specifications, see http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/cemspecs.htm	
Cement and Concrete with Blast Furnace Slag	25-50% ground granulated blast furnace slag; for specifications, see http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/cemspecs.htm	
Crossing Surfaces – Railroad Grade	15% fly ash in concrete or 85% tire rubber or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Dividers - Restroom and Shower	20% post-consumer plastic or 16% post-consumer with total of 25% recycled steel	
Fiberboard - Structural	80% recycled	

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Floor Tiles	90% recycled plastic or rubber	
Flowable Fill	6% fly ash or ferrous foundry sand	
Mats	10% post-consumer plastic or 75% post-consumer rubber or 100% post-consumer rubber/plastic composite	
Paint - Latex - Consolidated - Reprocessed whites/pastels - Reprocessed earthtones/darks	100% recovered material 20% recovered material 50% recovered material	
Paperboard - Laminated	100% post-consumer paper	
Patio Blocks	90% recycled plastic or rubber	
Pipe - Non-Pressure	cement - same specs as for concrete or 100% post-consumer HDPE or 5% post-consumer PVC with total of 25% recycled PVC or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Ramps - Modular Threshold	10% recycled aluminum or 100% post-consumer rubber or 16% steel with a total of 25% recycled steel	
Roofing Materials	20% post-consumer aluminum or cement - same specs as for concrete or 50% post-consumer fiber (felt) or 100% post-consumer plastic or plastic/rubber composite or 12% post-consumer rubber with total of 100% recycled rubber or 16% steel with a total of 25% recycled steel or 100% recycled wood/plastic composite	
Landscaping Products		
Compost	instead of fertilizers and soil amendments, use compost made from grass clippings, leaves, yard trimmings, and/or food waste	
Edging - Lawn and Garden	30% post-consumer plastic/rubber	
Hoses - Garden and Soaker	60% post-consumer plastic/rubber	
Hydraulic Mulch	100% post-consumer paper-based or 100% recovered wood/paper wood-based	

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Posts/Timber - Landscaping	25% post-consumer HDPE with total of 75% recycled content or 75% post-consumer mixed HDPE/fiberglass with total of 95% recycled content or 50% mixed plastic/sawdust with total of 100% recycled content or 50% mixed resins with total of 95% recycled content	
Park and Recreation Products		
Benches – Park	25% post-consumer aluminum or 90% post-consumer plastic with a total of 100% recycled plastic or 50% post-consumer plastic with a total of 95% recycled plastic or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Fencing - Snow	60% post-consumer plastic with total of 90% recycled plastic	
Playground Equipment	25% post-consumer aluminum or 15% recycled concrete or 90% post-consumer plastic with a total of 100% recycled plastic or 50% post-consumer plastic or composites with a total of 95% recycled plastic or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Playground Surfaces and Running Tracks	90% rubber or plastic	
Tables – Picnic	25% post-consumer aluminum or 15% recycled concrete or 90% post-consumer plastic with a total of 100% recycled plastic or 50% post-consumer plastic composites or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Transportation Products		
Channelizers Delineators - flexible	25% post-consumer plastic or 100% post-consumer rubber for base 25% post-consumer plastic or 100% post-consumer rubber for base 16% post-consumer with total of	
Stops - Parking	25% recycled steel for base 100% post-consumer concrete, plastic, or rubber	

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Traffic Barricades	100% recycled fiberglass or 80% post-consumer HDPE, LDPE, PET with total of 100% recycled or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Traffic Cones	50% recycled crumb rubber, LDPE, PVC	
Vehicular Products		
Coolants - Engine	reclaimed with only one base chemical	
Oil - Lubricating	25% re-refined	
Tires	for specification information, see http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non- hw/procure/products/retread.htm	
Miscellaneous Products		
Blasting Grit	100% recycled coal slag or 100% recycled copper and nickel slag or 100% post-consumer glass or 20% post-consumer glass/plastic with total of 100% recycled glass/plastic or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel or 100% recycled walnut shells or 100% recycled bottom ash or 100% post-consumer fused alumina oxide	
Drums - Industrial	30% post-consumer HDPE or 100% post-consumer paper or 16% post-consumer steel	
Pallets	95% post-consumer wood or 100% post-consumer plastic or 50% post-consumer paperboard	
Posts/Supports - Sign	80% post-consumer plastic or 16% post-consumer steel	
Racks - Bike	100% post-consumer HDPE or 16% post-consumer steel with total of 25% recycled steel	
Signs	25% post-consumer aluminum or 80% post-consumer plastic	
Sorbents	100% recycled organics/composites 90% post-consumer paper or 25% recycled plastics or 95% post-consumer textiles or 100% recycled wood	

Product	Required	Percent Content and Prices Available from Vendor
Strapping	50% post-consumer PET or 10% recycled PP or 67% post-consumer steel	

Acronyms

HDPE high density polyethylene (plastic no. 2 – milk, detergent, and oil bottles)

LDPE low density polyethylene (plastic no. 4 – many plastic bags, shrink wrap, garment bags)

PE polyethylene

PET polyethylene terephthalate (plastic no. 1 – soda and water containers)

PP polypropylene (plastic no. 5 – refrigerated containers, some bags, most bottle tops)

PS polystyrene (plastic no. 6 – throw away utensils and protective packing)

PVC polyvinyl chloride

References

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